



Sustainable Arlington An Environment Committee of Envision Arlington

Agenda

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Registration required; link: https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvf--uqz0rGtM_YiWgt9rZzglgn6rnZ3K

Join by telephone (use any number to dial in)

+1 929 436 2866
+1 312 626 6799
+1 301 715 8592
+1 346 248 7799
+1 669 900 6833
+1 253 215 8782

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone dial-in information provided above.

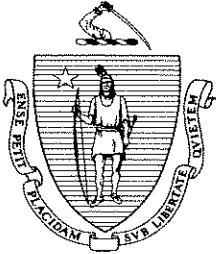
If you have not used Zoom before, please join the meeting 5 to 10 minutes early.

At the start of the meeting, we will:

1. Confirm first and last name of everyone on the call for the minutes and make sure that everyone can hear each other
2. Read Preamble to Remote Meetings
3. Introduce all members, staff, and persons on the agenda
4. Review “ground rules” for online meetings
5. Meeting materials will be available online through Novus or Town website for the public

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Update from Planning Dept.
3. Approve February minutes
4. Update on Fossil Fuel Infrastructure Warrant Article (Article 13)
5. Report on first online collaboration with True Story Theater, "Stories of personal and community resilience during the pandemic," Saturday, April 11
6. 2020 Town Survey Community Resilience Insights
7. Arlington Sustainable Transportation Plan,
<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/all-boards-and-committees/sustainable-transportation-advisory-committee>
8. Mutual Aid Arlington, <https://mutualaidarlington.org/>
9. New business
10. Announcements
11. Fixit Clinic, Sun., May 3, cancelled; some virtual fixit possibilities
12. Find webinars, other online events at <http://www.sustainablearlington.org/>
13. Adjourn



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITICO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by “public bodies,” as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

WHEREAS, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH”) have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

WHEREAS, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

WHEREAS section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 1:40 PM this 12th day of
March, two thousand and twenty.

Charles D. Baker

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Sustainable Arlington an Envision Arlington environment committee

Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, February 26th, 2020

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Town Hall Annex, 1st Floor Conference Room,
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA

Attendees:

Louisa Peppe, Margot Moomaw, Sarah Hill, Gail McCormick, Scott Samenfeld, Steve Revilak, Kelly Lynema, Roger Rosen, Ken Garden, Amos Meeks, Juli Brazile, Sue Doctrow, Tom Ehbrecht, Brucie Moulton, Cecily Miller, Tina Halfpenny

1. Introductions
2. Approve minutes
3. Update from Planning Dept.
 - a. Ken is working with Jill Manca on a new CCA opt up plan. New CCA website launching soon with related campaign. Note from preliminary survey results, 87% of respondents were interested in opting up.
 - b. Clean Heat For Arlington public meeting tomorrow at
 - c. Sustainable Transportation Plan underway. Will be multiple opportunities for engagement by May. Trying to create a 20 year vision for getting around Arlington.
 - d. LimeBike has ended their program. Town is working with BlueBikes and MAPC for a regional contract. Probably stations focused on parts of Arlington with higher population density, possibly not extending beyond the center unless we can get Lexington signed on. Trying to expand out from Cambridge/Somerville.
4. Clean Heat for Arlington Presentation
5. Vote to support resolution in favor of sustainable energy and energy efficiency devices in Historic Districts
 - a. Sue lives in a historic district and her neighbor's solar panels were rejected solely on aesthetic grounds. Other have had solar panels approved that don't show from the street, or that show but match the color of the roof.
 - b. Town Counsel suggested that state law requires the HDC to review these projects, so Town Meeting can't say that they can't review them. However, we can at least try to pass a non-binding resolution.
 - c. Asking the HDC to be more lenient for solar panels and heat pumps.

- d. Sue is also considering if state law can be changed. State law says that paint is not included, so neighbors can paint their house whatever color they want, so making aesthetic arguments doesn't make much sense.
 - e. HDC sets their own design guidelines, and they can amend them. Might be reasonable to set up a meeting with the chair.
 - f. HDC covers something like 300-500 homes.
 - g. Vote to support the resolution unanimously approved.
6. EcoFest Update, tasks, volunteers, publicity
7. "No Mow for Pollinators" discussion
- a. Issue is the precipitous decline in pollinator populations.
 - b. Relevant book: "Nature's Best Home: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard" by Douglas W. Tallamy.
 - c. Idea is a pilot No Mow strip on public land. Or maybe we can do it over as much as possible? Saves the Town money and effort. Would need to monitor for invasives.
 - d. Cecily thinks there may be a way to do an art project around this. Maybe also nurseries for Monarch butterflies.
 - e. Tina has tried to get the Town not to mow their Monarch waystation that the green team does, but the Town mows twice a year and outsources it, so it's not always the same crew, and they would rip up signs and fences.
 - f. We will form a subgroup to work on this. Interested people should get in touch with Brucie.
 - g. Lexington is already doing these No Mow areas. We will get in touch and figure out how they are doing it.
8. Juli Brazile to talk about Envision Arlington Vacancy, Standing Committee Chair – affects all Task Groups and their committees, including Sustainable Arlington
- a. Standing Committee manages task groups and managed budgets for task groups, manages overall Town Survey.
 - b. Juli is stepping down as chair of standing committee.
 - c. Would we want to recreate older model where members of task groups chair the standing committee?
 - d. Next meeting is Weds. March 11th
 - e. If there is no chair things might get missed, Town day booth, Town survey, precinct meetings, etc.
 - f. Being on the committee gives you a good overview of the various things going on around Town.
 - g. There are also vacancies for just members of the committee.
9. New business
10. Announcements
- a. Next meeting date moved to Wednesday before EcoFest, March 18th.
 - b. Take the Envision Arlington Town Survey by Feb 29th
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W3T28CW>
 - c. "Carbon Countdown." Public Invited. MA Climate & Energy Legislation: Important Updates & Next Steps, Winchester. Feb. 29, 9:30 am – 12 noon, Register at: www.eventbrite.com/e/carbon-countdown-tickets-91911155741
 - d. Local Environmental Action Conference: Saturday March 7th, Northeastern University, tickets at www.localenvironmentalaction.org

- e. EcoFest 2020 Sat. March 21st. Theme: Community & Climate Resiliency
- f. Fixit Clinic and Clothing Swap: Sunday May 3rd, Thompson Elementary School. Find Fixit clinic in other communities:
<http://www.boltonlocal.org/initiatives/repair-cafe>
- g. Climate Coffe March 4 at 6pm, Café Nero

11. Adjourn

DRAFT